

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A perpendicular magnetic recording medium comprising:

at least a first and a second perpendicular magnetic recording layer comprising an alloy containing Co and Pt, and

a substrate supporting the first and the second perpendicular magnetic recording layers,

wherein the first and the second perpendicular magnetic recording layers have crystalline structures and the first perpendicular magnetic recording layer has smaller crystal grains and lower perpendicular magnetic anisotropic energy (Ku) than the second perpendicular magnetic recording layer, and

wherein the first perpendicular magnetic recording layer contains 10% or more Pt, while the second perpendicular magnetic recording layer contains 10% or less Pt.

Claims 2-12. Cancelled.

13. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording layers have magnetic domains that are physically disconnected from one another.

Claims 14-18. Cancelled.

19. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein at least one underlayer is placed between the substrate and one layer of the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

20. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 19, wherein the underlayer is formed of an alloy containing either one material or at least two materials selected from Pt, Au, Ag, Pd, Ti, Ta, B, Nb, Co, Fe, Ni, Cu, Mo, Ru, Ta, C, Oxide, and Si.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the first perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCrPt alloy, and the second perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of CoCrPtX (X = B, Nb, Ta, O, or C) alloy.

23. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the first perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCrNbPt alloy, and the second perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCrBPt alloy.

24. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the first perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCrPt alloy, and the second perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of CoCrB_{Pt} alloy.

25. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein the first perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCrPt alloy, and the second perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCrNbPt alloy.

26. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein both the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layers are formed of an CoCrPt alloy, but the composition of a CoCrPt alloy for the first perpendicular magnetic recording layer is different from the composition of a CoCrPt alloy for the second perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

27. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein both the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layers are formed of an alloy containing Co, Cr, and Pt.

28. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein one of the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layers is formed of an alloy containing CoCrPtX (X = B, Nb, Ta, O, and C).

29. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein each of the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layers has a thickness of 50nm or less.

30. (Original) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein total thickness of the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layer is less than 200nm.

31. (Previously Presented) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1, wherein both the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layers have a lattice structure, and the lattice structures of the first and second perpendicular magnetic recording layers match.

Claim 32. Cancelled.